THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJ1T KUMAR PANJA): (a) and (b) Regular Safety Audits are carried out in the mines of Coal India Limited by Safety Officers and senior officials on Internal Safety Organisation. These audits are in the form of inspections made by the officials of the Internal Safety Organisation.

(c) Most of the mining operations both in the Coal India Limited & Singareni Collieries Company Limited cover the safety aspects of such operations. The cost of safety being an internal part of the cost of such operations, the annual budget for each unit thus incorporates the cost of safety organisation and operation.

(d) and (e) A large component of the accidents in opencast, mines of Coal India Limited occurs due to operation of machineries in the opencast mines. Steps taken to eliminate such accidents include—

— Imparting initial vocational training to each and every worker engaged in opencast operations;

— Arrangement of Refreshers Courses to suit different categories of workmen;

— Provision of safety device for moving machinery;

— Proper maintenance of Haul Roads and lighting in opencast mines. For ensuring slope stability, provisions of Coal Mines Regulations are observed.

(f) and (g) Coal India Limited has been following the standards of illumination in open cast mines and railway sidings as laid down in the statute. Whenever a fall in such standards is noticed, action is taken to bring it to desired standards.

Impact of import duty on domestic coal industry

6252. SHRI SUNDER SINGH BHANDARI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state-.

(a) whether Coal India had advised not to reduce import duty on coal as that would put the domestic coal indus try in an unfair situation;

(b) the reasons for not accepting the advice;

(c) what has been the import of coal after the reduction of import duty and at what price; and

(d) what have been the regulated prices of industrial grade of coal and coking coal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Since duty reduction has come into effect only from 1-4-1994, it is too early to obtain information about imports since then from the Director General of Foreign Trade,

(d) Government notifies different grades\varieties of coal from time to time. The prices for different grades/ varieties of Run-of-Mine (ROM) coal in

the country with effect from 19-6-93 and 1-4-94 are given in the Statement.

Statement

The Run of Mine (ROM) prices for different grades/varieties of coal in the country.

Grade	1993-94 w.e.f. 19-6-93	1994-95 w.e.f. 1-4-94
1	2	3
I. Coking/Semi-Coking Coals:		
Steel grade—I	996.00	
Steel grade—II	831.00	
Washery grade—I	702.00	
Washery grade—II	597.00	
Washery grade—III	459.00	
Washery grade—IV	428.00	
Semi-Coking grade—I	720.00	
Semi-Coking grade—II	597.00	
II. Non-Coking coals produced in Coal India Ltd. (CIL)		
(Long flame coals):		
Grade A	635.00	
Grade B	582.00	
Grade C	512.00	
Grade D	411.00	
III. Non-Coking coals produced in CIL (Other than Longflame Coal):		
Grade A	610.00	
Grade B	557.00	
Grade C	487.00	
Grade D	386.00	
Grade E	306.00	
Grade F	244.00	
Grade G	174.00	

1	2	3
IV. Coals produced in Singreni Collieries Company Ltd. (SCCL) :		
Grade C	602.00	632.00
Grade D	530.00	560.00
Grade E	436.00	466.00
Grade F	358.00	388.00
Grade G	262.00	292.00
V. Ungraded coals of Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland & Arunachal Pradesh	[illegible]4.00	

NOTES: The prices given are ex-pithead, exclusive of roaylty. cesses, taxes and other levies wherever applicable. A premium of 10% over and abo\e the prices given is chargeable on coals of Grades A to D supplied from list of some ccilieris notified for the purpose.

Labour unrest in Neyveli Lignite Corporation

6253. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) how many cases of labour unrest took place in the Neyveli Lignite Corpo-ra'ion since January, 1990;

(b) the details of each labour unrest alongwith dates of occurrence;

(c) the reasons for each labour unrest;

(d) whether any unrest took place in the Corporation in March, 1994;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor together with the number of workers involved and loss suffered in power generation;

(f) whether Government propose to take steps to improve industrial ralations in the Corporation and revamp the indus-rial relations department in the Corporation; and

(g) if the answer to part (f) above be in the negative, what steps are being taken to contain industrial unrest in the Corporation in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANIA): (a) to (c) Since 1-1-1990, 8 strikes/work stoppages leading to loss of production have taken place in Neveli Lignite Corporation Limited. Their details are given below:—

(i) In opposition to the new economic and industrial policy of the Govt., 3 strikes were sponsored by 5 unions on:—

(a) 29-11-1991

(b) 15-6-1992 and 17-6-1992

(c) 9-9-1993.

(ii) NLC Engineers Association primarily representing diploma holders staged a days strike on 29-5-1990 and again for 2 days on 11-10-1990 and 12-10-1990 for separate wage revision discussion for non-unionised supervi-sors.

(iii) Stoppage of work in Thermal Power Station-II for 3 days on 21-6-1993 to 23-6-1993 on an issue relating to transport of graduate Engineers was resorted to by members belonging to NLC Graduate Engineers Association.

(iv) A section of the employees in TPS-I struck work on 16-8-1993 and 17-8-1993 demanding employment for wards of employees of TPS-1.